

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 12 and ending at page 3, line 15 as follows:

The present invention provides alternative inexpensive, easily used ~~apparatus~~ discrete access-prevention devices for preventing undesired communications by a given network-connected computer with another computer within the network while the given computer remains on and running.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 17 and ending at page 4, line 5 as follows:

In one aspect, the present invention provides ~~an apparatus~~ a discrete access-prevention device for controlling communication-access between a computer network and either a computer or a modem that has a given port for bi-directional communication by the computer or the modem with the network, the ~~apparatus comprising~~ a discrete access-prevention device consisting of a first connector for connection to the given port, a second connector for connection to the network, electrically powered switching means connected in series between the first and second connectors and operable in response to a given control signal for preventing receipt by the first connector of any network communications from the second connector and/or for preventing receipt by the second connector of any network communications from the first connector, and a control terminal connected to the switching means for providing said given control signal to the switching means from an external source.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 7 and ending at page 4, line 19 as follows:

In another aspect, the present invention provides ~~an apparatus~~ a discrete access-prevention device for controlling communication-access between a computer network and either a computer or a modem that has a given port for bi-directional communication by the computer or the modem with the network, the ~~apparatus comprising~~ a discrete access-prevention device consisting of a first connector for connection to the given port, a second connector for connection to the network, and switching means connected in series between the first and second connectors for preventing receipt by the first connector of any network communications from the second connector and/or for preventing receipt by the second connector of any network communications from the first connector; ~~and a control device for controlling the switching means of the access-prevention device to selectively prevent the first connector from receiving any network communications from the second connector and/or to selectively prevent the second connector from receiving any network communications from the first connector.~~

After the preceding paragraph, delete the following paragraph, which was inserted by the Amendment filed July 30, 2004:

~~In still another aspect, the present invention provides an apparatus for controlling communication access between a computer network and either a computer or a modem that has a given port for bi-directional communication by the computer or the modem with the network, the apparatus comprising an access prevention device having a first connector for connection to the given port, a second connector for connection to the~~

network, electrically powered switching means connected in series between the first and second connectors and operable in response to a given control signal for preventing receipt by the first connector of any network communications from the second connector and/or for preventing receipt by the second connector of any network communications from the first connector, and a control terminal connected to the switching means for providing said given control signal to the switching means from an external source; and a control device connected to the control terminal for automatically controlling the switching means of the access prevention device in response to a given measured interval exceeding a predetermined duration to prevent the first connector from receiving any network communications from the second connector and/or to prevent the second connector from receiving any network communications from the first connector; wherein the control device comprises: sensing means for sensing whether or not an operator is present within a predetermined space adjacent the computer; and means coupled to the sensing means for measuring each interval when an operator is not present within said predetermined space and for providing said given control signal to the control terminal whenever the measured interval exceeds a predetermined duration; wherein said automatic control of the access prevention device is in response to said given control signal.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 21 and ending at page 5, line 5 as follows:

In a further aspect, the present invention provides apparatus a combination of a discrete access-prevention device and a control device for controlling communication-access within a computer network to a given computer that has a given port for bi-

directional communication by the given computer with another computer within the network, said apparatus combination comprising: ~~an~~ a discrete access-prevention device connected in series with the given port for preventing the given computer from receiving and/or transmitting any communications from and/or to said another computer within the network; and a control device for controlling the discrete access-prevention device; wherein the discrete access-prevention device consists of a first connector for connection to the given port, a second connector for connection to the network, electrically powered switching means connected in series between the first and second connectors and operable in response to a given control signal for preventing receipt by the first connector of any network communications from the second connector and/or for preventing receipt by the second connector of any network communications from the first connector, and a control terminal connected to the switching means for providing said given control signal to the switching means from an external source; and wherein the discrete access-prevention device is disposed within a chassis that contains the given computer.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7 and ending at page 5, line 11 as follows:

In additional aspects, the present invention provides a combination of a discrete access-prevention device and a control device different apparatus for controlling communication-access within a computer network in which an access-prevention device is disposed within a chassis that contains a modem, a chassis that contains an external network-access terminal, or a chassis that contains an external firewall device.